

THE CIVILIAN

A FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS
OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE OF CANADA

FEATURES

A Call for Justice.
Roll of Honour.
Lines to Greece.
Rights of Freemen.
Personals,—Appointments, etc.
The Postal Journal.

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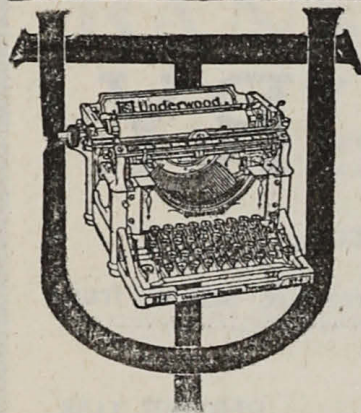
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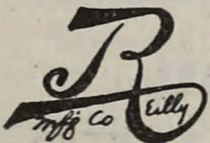
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THE CIVILIAN

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MARCH 17, 1916.

No. 24

A Call for Justice.

A conflict between the United States Government and its postal employees, which began in the Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt, has lately been brought to an end. It involved the rights of the Post Office men to organize and to petition Congress regarding matters affecting their class. These privileges were curtailed by Roosevelt. His successor, Taft, amended the restriction, and under Wilson the postal employees have been given their liberty once more.

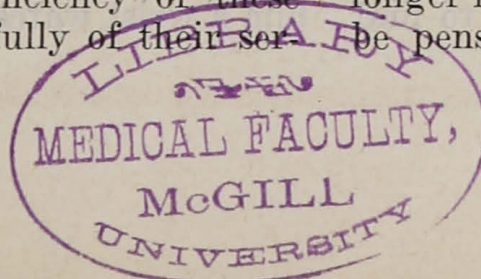
An echo of the matter was heard in Congress a short time ago when the Post Office Appropriations Bill was before the House of Representatives. Representative Sisson (Mississippi) harshly criticized the postal employees and drew forth striking speeches in their behalf from Representative George F. O'Shaughnessy of Rhode Island and Representative Madden of Illinois. The stand taken by these two men for justice and fair play has earned for them the gratitude and admiration of public service reformers everywhere.

Representative O'Shaughnessy said, in part:

"Heretofore it has been my pleasure—and I considered it my duty—to take exception to the autocratic and despotic order issued by Theodore Roosevelt, when he was President of the United States, putting a gag in the mouths of the postal employees of his country. I wish to reaffirm to-day my opposition to that kind of conduct on the part of any President of the United States. A modification of that order was made by President Taft, and as a Democrat, I glory in the fact that to a Democrat Congress was accorded the privilege of liberating the post-office employees and permitting them as free citizens of this Republic, to bring their complaints to Congress. This is the place for them to bring their complaints. We may as well bid good-bye to republican institutions if we can say that any set of men are to be denied the right to petition. As an old post-office clerk myself I can bear testimony to the efficiency of these men who give faithfully of their ser-

vice and who perform their duties to the satisfaction of the people. I do not believe that their salaries are any too large, and, as the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Madden) says, the way to secure legislation is not by the petty petitioning of a single individual but by the united petition of these post-office employees. God speed their efforts; make them all the bigger in number, just and reasonable in their nature, and bring them here to Congress to get what they believe to be their rights.

"Standing upon this floor, I take pleasure also in commending the efforts of the postal employees, that great body of American citizens, to bring about a change in the way of compensation for their labors. One of the most heart-rending sights, I think, that comes to the eyes of any man is to see an old, faithful letter carrier or clerk, perhaps of 50 years' service, told that his services are no longer required. I believe they should be pensioned, and I hope the senti-



EDITOR, C. M. A. J.

THE POET "LOW-RATE."

I hark me well to many a night,—*The Civilian* upon my knees,
 When I sat me down in my old arm-chair for an hour of comfort and
 ease.
 And each of these times I've turned to the rhymes that "Low-Rate" wrote
 and say—
 They've done me good, as poetry should,—though few of us write that
 way.

And now I learn that "Low-Rate's" gone to answer his country's call;
 The poet turned to an aeronaut bold; he's offered his life and ALL.
 And we know he'll fight with all his might; yea, fight to the very end,
 Jack, we're proud to call you Friend.

There are many of us who for reasons galore can't do their bit, as you know;
 How I wish your spirit could be instilled in the laggards who will not
 go!
 But for you we'll pray, while you're far away, that the Lord will watch
 o'er thee,
 And send you back—the same old Jack—to your friends across the
 sea.

—Blackie Dawe.

Ottawa, February 18, 1916.

"A BALLAD."

I wish I were a nightingale, and so were you,
 We'd flutter from our little nest and drink the morning dew;
 You'd carol to me sweetly, as you sang your love divine,
 And all the world would envy me that little bride of mine.

I wish you were a nightingale, and so were I,
 We'd leave this dismal, gloomy earth, and wing our way on high;
 We'd build our home in heaven, where true hearts do ne'er repine,
 And all the world would envy you that little mate of thine.

You'd fly to me, and I to you,
 Exchanging kiss for kiss,
 We'd weave our nest of sunbeams
 And we'd live our life of bliss;
 And at your feet I'd throw my love
 And everything I own,
 To build that little mate of mine
 A well deserved throne.

Low-Rate.

LINES TO GREECE.

(These lines are from the pen of Mr. T. A. Browne, of the Immigration Branch, Department of the Interior. They recently appeared in the *Literary Digest* with the following introductory comment: "Greece's peculiar position in this war, with a Government pro-German in sentiment and a large popular party strongly attached to the cause of the Allies, has been the cause of much editorial discussion, and naturally it has also attracted the attention of the poets. From a Canadian writer it has drawn this impassioned appeal, an excellent example of the argumentative use of verse.")

Hellas to Eastward flames the war apace,
Along the hills of Macedon and Thrace.
Time marches onward, hand in hand with Fate.
Awake, awake, ere yet it be too late.

Hellas, arise; Thou wert not wont to lie
Prone, while the conflict lightened in thy sky.
Land of the Muse if memory thee inspires,
Wake, and with freedom strike as did thy sires.

The monuments that mount thy marble peaks,
Surely from these some voice heroic speaks.
Thy place is in the vanguard of the free,
And comrade of the Turk thou canst not be.

Around thee Greece the tide of battle swells
From Serbia southward to the Dardanelles.
While from the Rhine the Siren thee beguiles,
Brooding meanwhile enslavement of thine isles.

The Bulgar thunders on thy hilly flanks,
The Turk, Hun bought, arrays his crimsoned ranks,
And fresh from slaughter where Armenia cowers,
Lifts praise to Allah as on thee he lowers.

Joyous the memory of thy ancient power,
Golden thy lyrics and thy martial dower,
Proud was thy form when Greatness thee attired,
When Homer sang and Phidias inspired.

Hast thou forgotten one of Saxon strain?
Canst thou remember Byron and refrain?
His was the voice that waked the God in thee,
And his the race that wrought to make thee free.

Remember still how wise Ulysses chose,
When from the deep the dulcet chant arose,
Now be thy soul, O Greece, with wisdom strong!
Reject not Orpheus for the Siren's song.

Where chooseth Greece while moves the dark intrigue?
Where Progress beckons or where despots league?
Each hour supine promotes oppression's goal
Betrays mankind and tarnishes thy soul.

Ottawa, Oct. 28, 1915.

—T. A. Browne.

THE CIVILIAN

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THE CIVILIAN, P. O. Box 484, Ottawa.

Ottawa, March 17, 1916.

THE NATIONAL DUTY.

When a man becomes a soldier from a conscientious desire to serve his country, Christ Himself vouches for him in these words: "Amen I say to you, there is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, who shall not receive much more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting" (Luke XVIII: 29, 30). To the shirker, Christ says: "Whosoever would save his life shall lose it." To the true soldier Christ says: "Whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it" (Matt. XVI: 25). The motto of every Canadian, whether it be his glorious privilege to risk his life for his friends or whether he be compelled by duty to remain at home and help his country in some other but equally necessary way, should be that given by that immortal soldier, saint and Roman martyr, the Apostle Paul, "Take thy part in the suffering hardship, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus" (II Tim.: 11, 3).

—Rev. Fr. J. J. O'Gorman.

"I gave the lads some cheery words, but really they did not need any cheering up."

—Maj. Gen. Sir Sam. Hughes, Re-
view in England.

OUR BOYS

Previously reported:

Dead	43
Wounded	79
Prisoners	7

THE RIGHTS OF FREEMEN.

The right of free speech, the right to demand justice from the powers that rule, and the right to organize for the peaceful promotion of lawful interests, are inalienable from the subjects of all responsible governments. Insofar as any Government may curtail these rights, by such measure does it sacrifice its own right to govern. Yet the history of every nation, ancient or modern, monarchy or republic, is little more than a record of the rise to power of one class and the repression of another. Time, and the softening influences of civilization, have brought about a general substitution of law for the sword, but the principle remains. Those that govern see in every movement of the governed a threat against the established order, and in the name of justice and national good the repressive measure is evoked.

How often public servants have been the victim of such measures cannot be told. The Government that will establish departments of industry and labour that will affirm the right of the wage-earner to value his own labour and that will create means of protection for the person, property and liberty of the humblest labourer will, on occasion, be found gagging and binding its own employees.

The public service of Canada has suffered but little from this cause. Organizations have sprouted and spread and only rarely has a dis-

position to interfere been shown. Words of scorn have been used, it is true, and the declaration of right has been mocked as "vociferousness," but, except on one or two occasions, opposition has gone no further. Of late a frank recognition of mutual ideals and common purposes has wonderfully improved the relations subsisting between members of the Government and the organized Civil Service.

This tolerable and hopeful state has a sharp contrast in what has been going on in the United States. In that great country, where "Civil Service reform," "merit" and "efficiency" have become cries of such potency that all parties shout them at every opportunity, the gag was for years upon the mouths of the largest and, perhaps, the most useful of all the classes of public servants,—the postal employees. Lately the monstrous injustice was removed and the men who handle the United States mail have now the privilege enjoyed by all others of their countrymen,—that of laying their grievances before Congress.

In the House of Representatives, recently, strong and honest words were said in defence of the nation's faithful servants, and the speakers not only commended the act of justice already done but pointed the way to further measures of equity. The declarations of Representatives O'Shaughnessy and Madden were such as Canadian civil servants hope to hear, some day, from some fearless member of the House of Commons. *The Civilian* gladly gives space to utterances which ring so truly with freedom and justice.

A HOPEFUL SIGN.

To the casual observer it would appear that the Civil Service is rising in the esteem of the members of parliament. Such opinion must

be based, of course, upon the utterances of the members. During the few weeks of the present session which have passed, there have been several instances of members speaking in terms of appreciation and approval of the personnel and services of the body of government employees in Ottawa. If there is really an increase of this generous feeling in the Commons, to what is its growth due? Perhaps the creditable showing of the Civil Service in furnishing men to the army and its splendid over-doing of a heavy undertaking in connection with the Patriotic Fund have something to do with it. A deeper cause may be the change of relationship between the Service and the Government as required by the partial merit-system enactment of 1908. In the old days, when the Service was largely made up of direct appointees of members of parliament, it was not surprising that the creator looked upon his creation as an inferior thing. Seven years of the new system have removed the old times into the realms of reminiscence. The close connection between Parliament and the Service has to some extent disappeared. Less familiarity makes for an abatement of contempt and a growth of respect. This is a welcome conclusion to draw from recent incidents. *The Civilian* hopes that it is in some measure a true one.

In Lieut.-Col. Glen Campbell the Civil Service gives to the Canadian army its tallest commanding officer. This Campbell of Glenlyon had informally enrolled a company of scouts before he was given command of the 107th Battalion and his men have now been absorbed by larger unit.

* * *

It is anticipated that a large number of French-speaking civil servants will enlist in the battalion to be commanded by Capt. Rene De

Salaberry. A Civil Service company in the 207th Battalion (Lieut.-Col. McLean) is also projected. Practically all the n.c.o.'s of the former unit have yet to be chosen, and nearly a hundred are still required for the 207th. If either of these battalions is to have any Civil Service character, time and opportunity now invite the volunteers.

* * *

In Great Britain the ministers are taking one-quarter of their salary payments in war bonds, and it is considered probable that the whole body of civil servants will be asked to do likewise. In Canada there are few civil servants who can afford to make an investment in long-term securities out of each month's salary, but it is known that many members of the Service have turned their savings over to the Government in exchange for bonds of the recent \$100,000,000 issue.

* * *

Of the numerous recent enlistments from the Civil Service practically all are under the amended salary regulation of November 1st, that is, the amount of military pay is deducted from civil salaries. In not a few cases the men abandon their civil salaries entirely and some others go on half pay. No civil servant who enlists now receives any pecuniary advantage by so doing, and in practically every case the volunteer suffers direct or indirect financial loss. The continuation of enlistments under these conditions proves that our boys are actuated by patriotism and not by greed when they don the khaki.

BEDFELLOWS.

From the Ottawa Free Press.

Remember, pessimism and cowardice are bedfellows.

"NO SMOKING."

The new rule against smoking in offices controlled by the Department of Public Works is accepted by civil servants, on the whole, in a loyal spirit. The following letter, from a man who has been a smoker all his adult life, expresses what seems to be the general view:

Editors of *The Civilian*:

As requested by you, I have ventured to put in writing the views I expressed in conversation in reference to the "No Smoking" regulation in the hope that it may help some of my colleagues to a more cheerful acceptance of the situation. I may say that the prohibitory order causes me no inconvenience as it merely makes compulsory a practice which with me has been voluntary since an experience I met with some years ago when transacting business in a public office in a large city in the United States. On that occasion I had to wait my turn, and during the whole time I was in that office the official at the wicket puffed steadily at an ancient pipe which only left his lips when necessary to enable him to eject a powerful stream into a receptacle some six feet away. The customer preceding me at the wicket was a lady. That experience caused me to realize as never before the fact that a public office belongs not to the officials but to the public who provide it. As smoking is offensive and nauseating to a certain portion of the community, I have felt that as a servant of all I had no right to make use of an office provided by my employers in which to transact their business in a manner repulsive to even a substantial minority. Having some 17 hours out of the 24 at my disposal in which to seek the solace of the weed, it does not appear to me to be any great sacrifice to make to the sentiment of the non-smokers.

After all we are asked to observe

rules that are not general in other establishments? In how many banking houses, financial institutions or corporation offices in which business is transacted with the public are the officials permitted to smoke during office hours?

One Civil Servant.

Man after man, when interviewed, declared his cordial approval of the new order. Some welcome it gladly for they have found that the absence of any barrier to smoking leads them on insensibly to too great indulgence and they are glad of the assistance of a rule which reinforces their own good resolutions. Others, like the writer of the foregoing letter, feel that smoking in public offices, especially in business hours, is essentially unfair and unreasonable. Still others hold that the effect must be to improve the efficiency of the Service.

"True enough," said one old smoker when consulted on this latter point. "It will make for efficiency in the long run. But the first effect in many offices will be bad. There are many men who cannot concentrate their attention upon documents before them unless they have their pipes in their mouths. It's a wretched habit if you like, but some of the very best men in the Service have acquired it, and in breaking it they will lose time and make mistakes. Let the rule be enforced long enough and the Service will adjust itself to the new way, and when it is so adjusted probably there will be greater efficiency than there is to-day. It is a mere matter of enforcing the rule."

"That's exactly the trouble," said another who evidently missed his pipe greatly. "Will the new rule be actually enforced? Many men will try to evade it, and some of them will succeed. And perhaps some will be strong enough to defy it. Look at that"—and he drew a clipping from his pocket. "That's

the Hansard report of the speech of Mr. Thornton, M.P., on 6th March."

The clipping read as follows:

"We see notices posted up in this building by order of the Minister of Public Works that there must be no smoking except in three places. I want to say something which perhaps other members may not favour, but I see men every day in this building violating that order and smoking in different rooms in the building. Why was that notice put up? It is because there is a lurking suspicion in the minds of men inside and outside of this House that the burning of the Parliament Buildings was due to somebody dropping a match or a cigar stub or cigarette stub, and it is hoped by this rule to prevent a recurrence of such a disaster. Yet every day there are members of this House who violate that rule. I call the attention of the Government to that fact."

"The ministers have no power over the members of Parliament," observed *The Civilian* man.

"That is to say," observed the other, "thus rule may be completely disregarded by those who are big enough or in high enough places to assume that it cannot be enforced against them. There are members of the Civil Service who work in the building in which Parliament meets. Do you suppose that this rule can be disregarded and defied by senators and members of Parliament and enforced against those who work for Parliament? Where are you going to find policemen or guardians so vigilant and with such fine discrimination as to be able to suppress smoking by everybody else and allow it to be indulged in indiscriminately by all the three hundred or more men who form the membership of the two Houses? Efforts have been made before now to prevent smoking in the public offices, but they have come to nothing. I can remember one Minister of Public Works who

himself constantly disregarded the rule to which he had given his official sanction. How could he condemn one of the officers of his department for violating his rule by following his example? And if the Department of Public Works people are allowed to smoke, how are you going to check others? I'm for the anti-smoking rule, I'm for it strong; but I don't want it enforced against me with everybody else left free to defy it."

In spite of the fear expressed by the person just quoted, the new rule seems to be well enforced except in the case of the temporary Parliament House. Many stories are going the rounds of the offices about the queer things to which the new rule has given rise. They say that one prominent official started out to defy the rule, and spoke with considerable hauteur to the Dominion policeman who undertook to check his errant course. But when the policeman made it plain that either the pipe went out or the user of it went under arrest, the point was conceded by the smoker, and a precedent thus established which may be cited in case of other attempted infractions of the law.

A lady who has suffered under the rudeness of some young men who are her fellow-denizens of a somewhat frowsy office, and who have been accustomed to smoke freely, noticed one of these youngsters taking an occasional draw at a pipe which lay on his desk. She told him to put it out, which he refused to do. "I'll not make my request a second time," she said, rising, "but if you don't put out that pipe this instant I'll call the policeman." The young man had nerve, but not nerve enough,—he weakened.

The wash-rooms are a good deal frequented these days, and it is not necessary for one to be a Sherlock Holmes to be able to infer that they are being used as smoking rooms.

In some departments this is not seriously found fault with, as it is felt that the heavy smokers simply cannot work if they are deprived of tobacco altogether. In others the danger of this clandestine smoking is clearly recognized and every effort is made to put it down.

A chief clerk was seen going along the hall leading from his office to another, with his lighted pipe in his mouth. A fellow official jokingly said "I arrest you!" "What for?" asked the other, willing to learn the joke. "For smoking." "Great Scott," said the other, seizing his pipe, "I didn't know I had it in my mouth." He was evidently in earnest. Engrossed in his work he had instinctively resorted to his pipe, upon which he has for years depended to quicken his mental faculties.

VANCOUVER CUSTOMS.

A photograph of the late Sergeant H. E. Moore, of the staff at this port, has been very kindly presented to the Customs by Mr. Ronald Burns, of this city, brother-in-law of the deceased. Sergt. Moore died of wounds received in action on May 25th, 1915.

There also has been presented to the Customs a Roll of Honour, comprising in all twenty-four names, all of the Customs staff here, compiled and presented by Mr. Geo. E. Adams, of the Collector's office.

The above photograph and Roll of Honour have been hung in the lobby of the Customs floor in the Post Office Building.

Subscriptions to Patriotic Funds, Customs staff, Port of Vancouver, B.C., since December 1st, 1915: Canadian Patriotic Fund, \$800.00; Prisoners of War Fund, \$300.00; Returned Soldiers Fund, \$100.00; Women's Patriotic Guild, \$100.00; Red Cross Fund, \$50.00; Christmas Cheer Children's Societies, \$75.00; special grants to worthy cases, \$40.00; total, \$1,465.00.

OTTAWA PATRIOTIC FUND.

Agriculture	\$ 74 61
Customs (Inside)	283 00
Interior	349 60
Labour	11 00
Militia and Defence	1,583 80
Naval Service	42 00
Post Office (Inside)	207 00
Railways and Canals	148 60
Secretary of State	7 50
Senate	76 50

Total	2,783 61
Amount previously published	147,328 59

Grand total subscribed
to date \$150,112 20

This may be taken as the final result of the campaign, for while death or enlistment may prevent a few from completing their subscriptions, these losses will be more than counterbalanced by the subscriptions of those who take their positions or those who have still to send in their subscriptions. In the latter class are some in at least one branch, away from Ottawa, who only received their cards within the last month; in this case no returns have been received to date.

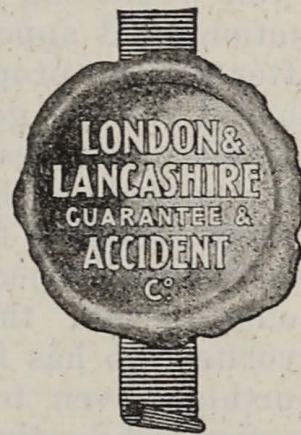
OTTAWA FORESTERS' CLUB.

Whether insects destroy more timber than fire was one of the points touched upon in the discussion which followed Mr. J. M. Swaine's address on forest insects at the last regular monthly meeting of the Ottawa Foresters' Club, held at the University Club. Mr. Swaine is the entomologist for forest insects of the Department of Agriculture, and at this meeting, by actual samples of timber destroyed, by photographs and lantern views, he gave a most interesting account of what damage insects are doing in our forests. Perhaps the most interesting part to lumber-

men was that in which he described what could be done to drive out an insect invasion from a timber limit. Mr. Swaine was asked a number of questions by those present and a general and profitable discussion followed.

The chair was occupied by Mr. R. H. Campbell, Director of Forestry, President of the club, and there were present in addition to Mr. Clyde Leavitt, Vice-President, and a good representation of club members, a number of visitors, including Dr. Gordon Hewitt, Dominion entomologist, and Mr. B. M. Winegar, in charge of the C.P.R. forestry department at Montreal.

In response to enquiries the President explained that the privilege of attending and taking part in these meetings was open to lumbermen and others interested in forestry on the same basis as the original members, the object being to disseminate helpful information regarding our forests.



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Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed under this heading.

Editors of *The Civilian*:

Dear Sirs,—A few weeks ago the Third Division clerks who had passed the promotoin examinations hailed with delight Dr. LaRochelle's memorandum to the Secretary of State, as published in *The Civilian*.

We understand Dr. Shortt is still opposed to our eligibility for promotion. Would Dr. Shortt kindly let us know his reasons, more especially with regard to those who are doing Secend Division work.

“THIRD DIVISION.”

Editors of *The Civilian*:

A communication in your paper a few weeks ago called attention to the abuses in the Outside Service of the Inland Revenue Department and asked that you would call attention to all promotions and appointments made hereafter without proper qualification. Should you not go further and point out all appointees who are not properly qualified? What is the use in an officer studying faithfully for years to obtain a special class certificate only to find that some political favorite who has failed, or was too worthless even to try, is given promotion while the special class men gets only what he cannot be denied by law. The Inland Revenue Service is, perhaps, the only one in the world where failure is rewarded by promotion. In the whole list of deputy collectors in first class divisions there are but two or three who have special class qualifications, while several have failed to get any standing whatever and some have no certificate at all. Some divisions are lumbered up with several deputies whose principal duties seem to be on the street instead of in the Inland Revenue office. I have often won-

dered how the Auditor General passes the salaries of these “side-walk deputies.” The same can be said of several collectors and, I believe, some inspectors, but the deputy abuse is the most glaring. If your paper will take up and expose these abuses, you will certainly be accomplishing a great deal of good for the Inland Revenue officers.

EXCISEMAN.

A Queer Arrangement.

Editors of *The Civilian*:

A most amusing result of the recent fire is a new regulation regarding means of emergency exit from the West Block. For some months past the most-used entrance of that building, — the main-floor door facing the head of O'Connor street, — has been closed and entrance and exit are permitted only by the basemnt “rat hole” where the policeman stands on guard. During certain hours of each day the “Customs door” is also open. Only two open doors in such a n immense building, housing many hundreds of employees, would make inevitable a most perilous crush in case of a fire and panic.

To provide further emergency exits the Department of Public Works has arranged to have the main-door facing O'Connor street and that in the Mackenzie Tower unlocked should an alarm of fire occur. The keys of the doors hang in the elevators opposite.

It is evidently intended that, in case of fire, the elevator attendant shall stop his car at the main floor, take the big key from its little box, pass out through the revolving door and unlock and open the main outer door. There is no policeman on that floor to perform the duty. At the Customs door a notice, bearing the name of the Commissioner, says that *the elevatorman* is authorized to open the door in case of fire.

It seems to me that, in case of fire, the elevators should be run at top speed to bring down the clerks from the top floor, for it is to those up under the roof that the danger would be greatest. The elevators should not be stopped for a moment while their operators are opening the main-floor doors. The elevator shafts would be the certain vents of fire and smoke should fire break out in the basement in their vicinity, and the open stairways which winds round and round them would soon become impassable. The lifts should be

kept running from roof to basement as long as possible, or as long as any person remains on the top floor.

Why not hang the keys in boxes near the main doors so that anyone could get them without stopping the elevators? If necessary, connect the doors of the boxes with a gong at the police post in the basement so that the officer on duty would be notified if the boxes were opened at an improper time.

A better arrangement might cost several dollars, but surely the safety of hundreds of lives is worth insuring!

SAFETY FIRST.

KIND APPRECIATIONS.

St. Catharines, Mar. 10, 1916.

The Civilian,
Ottawa.

Dear Sirs,—

It is with much pleasure that I enclose herewith \$2.00 to cover my subscription to April, 1917, and I wish to add that your efforts on behalf of the Service are much appreciated.

Yours truly,
C. A. H.

* * *

Kingston, Ont., 10th March, 1916.

The Manager,
The Civilian,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir,—

It is with pleasure I enclose herewith amount required to renew my subscription.

After 40 years in the Civil Service I enjoy, in my retirement, the periodical visits of *The Civilian*, and consider it an able exponent of all that tends to make the Service more efficient and its betterment in every way.

I would not miss having it on any account.

With best wishes for its continued success.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. H.

YUKON TELEGRAPHS.

The men of the Yukon Telegraph Line are strung out, in lonely posts and cabins, from Vancouver to Dawson. Though cut off from communication with the rest of Canada except by means of their wire, they are united in spirit with all the rest of the Dominion's public service, and are participators in the Patriotic Fund and similar enterprises. Some newspapers have credited the contributions of this telegraph staff to New Westminster, which is not correct. It was the boys along the line who put up the money.

Space permits only the following summary of the more than generous givings of these men:

Contributions.	Number Subscribers.
One day's pay	54
Two days' pay	10
Three days' pay	6
Five days' pay	2
Eight days' pay	2
\$3.00	1
\$3.75	1
\$5.00	31
\$5.75	2
\$8.00	1
\$10.00	5
\$20.00	1
\$25.00	1

CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION.

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive was held on Tuesday, March 7th, in the Club Rooms. Mr. Todd, who had recovered from his recent illness, presided.

The greater part of the meeting was spent in a discussion regarding recruiting in the Service. Major A. Graham Bell, of the Department of Railways and Canals, who is one of the senior officers in the new 207th Battalion, C.E.F., laid before the meeting a proposal that an attempt should be made to raise a company

of civil servants for overseas service with that battalion. After going fully into the matter, the Executive decided to recommend the proposal to the Service and to assist Major Bell as far as possible. The 207th is to be one of the crack battalions, and the Executive feel that they can recommend it highly to those civil servants who can be spared for military duty.

Further returns were received in connection with the Patriotic Fund campaign. These are shown in another column.

Mr. Sheppard was appointed as auditor to succeed Mr. Doyle of the Customs Department, who is taking further training in Quebec in preparation for overseas service.

Steps were taken to follow up the recommendations with regard to the Third Division contained in Commissioner LaRochelle's recent memorandum, and it is hoped that something may be done before long to remedy this grievance.

A HISTORY OF CANADA.

To write the history of any country is a notable effort. The historian must be a scholar, a judge and a man of the world. To write one of Canada needs a Gibbon. In default of a Gibbon, the problem has been recently solved by associating a number of writers in the task. The success of this plan marks a notable achievement of a group of civil servants.

Although upwards of a hundred writers have been engaged in the production of the twenty-two volumes, the whole has been under editorial supervision of Prof. Adam Shortt and Dr. A. G. Doughty. Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee writes of exploration in the Far West. Mr. D. McArthur deals with the early days of the new regime, and Upper and

Lower Canada, from 1763 to 1840. Mr. Duncan C. Scott treats of Indian affairs. Mr. William Smith writes a history of the post office from early times up to the period of Colonial control.

The student of Canadian history will find a great fund of information in this work and will be amply rewarded for his attention to it.

There is not any benefit so glorious in itself, but it may yet be exceedingly sweetened and improved by the manner of conferring it. The virtue rests in the intent; the profit in the judicious application of the matter; but the beauty and ornament of an obligation lies in the manner of it.—*Seneca.*



Royal Naval College of Canada.

THE next examination for the entry of Naval Cadets will be held at the examination centres of the Civil Service Commission in May, 1916, successful candidates joining the College on or about 1st August. Applications for entry will be received up to 15th April by the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Ottawa, from whom blank entry forms can now be obtained.

Candidates for the examination in May next must be between the ages of fourteen and sixteen on the 1st July, 1916.

The scheme of training at the College is based on that in force in the English Naval Colleges at Osborne and Dartmouth, but it is not compulsory for cadets to follow a Naval Career when they have completed the course, which lasts three years. McGill and Toronto Universities allow the College course to count as one year at the Science School. The Admiralty will take a maximum of 8 cadets annually into the Royal Navy, where the pay and prospects would be identical with that of cadets who have passed into the Navy from Osborne and Dartmouth.

Further details can be obtained on application to the undersigned.

G. J. DESBARATS,

Deputy Minister of the Naval Service,
Department of the Naval Service,
Ottawa, January 11th, 1916.

Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.—90794.

Montreal SHIRT and OVERALL	
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LIMITED	SHIRTS
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Athletics.

Sam Manson, the noted "half" of the Hamilton Tigers' football team, is to be major of the 173rd Battalion. Harry Glassford, who was captain of the Tigers last year, is also in the 173rd. Major Walters of Hamilton is a captain in the "Tigers" Battalion.

Tom Flanagan, captain in the 180th "Sportsmen's" Battalion, has been appointed physical director of troops in training in Military District No. 2. His jurisdiction covers 30,000 men, of whom 19,000 are now under arms in Toronto.

Billy Ellis, footballer, oarsman and sport writer, of Vancouver, is now a sergeant in the 143rd Battalion, "The B. C. Bantams."

The hockey season is nearing its close. Will the fans spare a few minutes, some time before the baseball series opens, to consider the national crisis and their duty in that regard?

The Ontario Government will put a tax on all amusements. Those institutions which absorb the attention and the money of the thoughtless public and which render no return in national service should be made to bear their full share of the country's load of expense. The tax will fall directly on the patrons. That is where it belongs. The person who can afford five cents for a "movie" show can spare one cent for war tax.

Ottawa lawn bowlers have contributed \$230 to the fund raised by the Dominion Lawn Bowling Association to aid the military branch of the Y.M.C.A. The fund is intended to amount to \$25,000, of which Toronto clubs will raise \$15,000, the remaining \$10,000 being the share of Montreal and the smaller city and town clubs.

Personals.**Appointments.**

Agriculture:—Percy G. Draper, Div. 3B; Fredk. J. Tighe, Div. 3B; Roy L. Dorrance, Div. 2B; Jas. R. Fryer, seed analyst, Ottawa.

Customs:—W. Harry Down, preventive officer, London; Herbert C. McIlquham, preventive officer, Kingston.

Inland Revenue:—Dr. J. Ad. Magnan, medical superintendent, Div. 1A, at \$3,300.

Interior:—Elizabeth M. Crown, Div. 3B; Wm. C. Bethune, Div. 3B; Walter F. Hanchet, Div. 3B; Richard A. McClymont, Div. 2B; A. J. Johnston, sorter; Ferdinand A. Dewhurst, sorter.

Labour:—F. E. Harrison, inspector.

Post Office Dept.:—Byron E. Black, Div. 3B; Carmel H. James, Div. 3B; Jas. E. Logan, Div. 3B; J. L. Burnet, messenger. Class 3B: D. L. Speer, Edmonton; F. L. McCrae, Toronto; C. A. Halladay, Alicia Fair, Ottawa; J. B. Mooney, H. J. B. Arteau, J. P. Turcotte, J. R. Hamelin, Anna M. Tremblay, Quebec; Ernest Laporte, Montreal; T. R. Parker, Guelph; C. I. Richardson, Peterborough; Mrs. Amking, Miss B. B. R. Roberts, Ottawa; W. J. Gallagher, A. E. Cameron, E. S. Smith, W. J. Dickey, G. H. Sykes, H. R. Murray, R. McLaughlin, Toronto; Ernie Hillocks, Calgary; M. Wallace, G. E. Francey, Saskatoon; H. M. Carson, London; G. H. King, Moosejaw; F. B. Nicol, Vancouver.

Railways and Canals:—Henry P. Borden, Board of Engineers, Quebec bridge, at \$6,000.

Trade and Commerce:—Hugh P. Bell, Div. 2B.

Promotions.

Conservation Commission:—Inez A. Campbell to Div. 3A.

Indian Affairs:—Alice F. Masta to Div. 3A.

Interior:—Henry W. Leggett to Div. 2A; John J. O'Keefe to Div. 3B.

Post Office Dept.:—Jos. H. A. Roy to Div. 3B; S. R. Maxwell to Grade 1A, St. John; C. A. Halladay to Class 3A, Ottawa; A. T. Middleton, Toronto, to Chief Clerkship; Eugene Furois, Joseph A. Pouliot, Oscar Gilbert, Quebec, to Class 1A; Walter Bowler, Walter Logan, London, to Class 2A; Joseph Daley, Kingston, to Class 2A; A. H. Cowan, Robert Marley, Chrales J. Lee, J. S. Isaac, A. J. Warner, London, to Class 2A; P. A. Clemenson, Windsor, to Class 2A; James F. Kane, S. A. Morris, Kingston, to Class 2B; A. B. Callahan, O. K. Elson, R. S. McKay, D. McArthur, G. W. Gray, S. A. Crawford, London, to Class 2B; W. C. Thornton, Peterborough, to Class

2B; Austin A. Duignan, James V. McGee, Guelph, to Class 3A; H. E. Seale, Kingston, to Class 3A; E. J. Trepanier, P. H. Lemieux, Quebec, to Class 3A; Mrs. E. Anderson, Miss R. E. Gilhooly, Miss I. Connell, Miss A. T. Lynott, W. B. Klick, Miss M. Parent, Mrs. I. Crockett, Miss M. B. Leduc, Miss M. K. Coghlan, Ottawa, to Class 3A; G. P. O'Brien, R. B. Brooks, Peterboro, to Class 3A; R. M. Guy, M. S. Harris, Hamilton, to Class 3A; C. F. Riggan, A. R. Bartram, London, to Class 3A.

Resignations.

Thos. F. York, preventive officer, Huntingdon; Wm. Brown, customs examining officer, Sault Ste. Marie; Harold H. Rankin, clerk, Customs, Vancouver; John A. MacDonald, Div. 3B, Interior; Victor F. Murray, Div. 2B, Interior; Duncan Brace, letter carrier, Moncton; J. E. Grondon, 3rd class clerk, Montreal P. O.; G. E. Brennan, Class 3A, Toronto P. O.; J. G. Bastedo, clerk, Moosejaw P. O.; H. V. N. Matton, Class 3A, Toronto P. O.; E. G. Carter, Class 3B, Regina P. O.; J. H. Kennedy, Class 2B, Halifax P. O.; V. C. R. Quayle, Class 3B, Winnipeg P. O.

Transfers.

A. J. McRobie to Office of Superintendent, Montreal.

General.

D. B. Dowling, of the Geological Survey,

was elected a vice-president of the Canadian Mining Institute.

S. M. Ami, of the Printing Bureau, has been off duty for some time on account of illness.

Nichol T. Allen, of the Department of Interior, was married in Toronto, on March 1st, to Agnes C. Mitchell, formerly of Montrose, Scotland. Rev. Byron H. Stauffer officiated.

The announcement in this column, last issue, of the promotion of "H. Desjardins," of the Department of Public Works, was an error. There is no person of that name in the department.

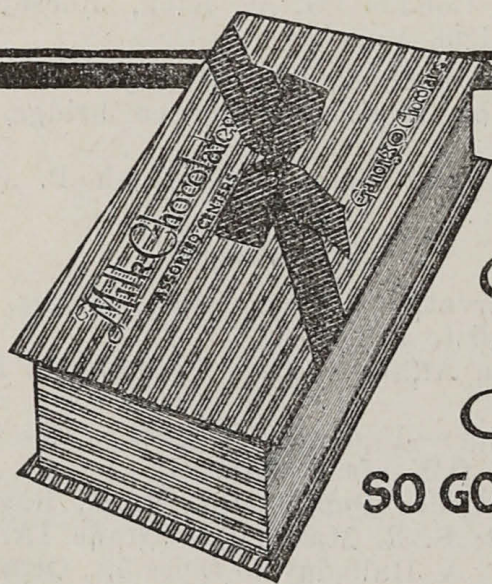
Capt. René DeSalaberry, of the Department of Justice, who has been at the front with the 2nd Battalion and who is to command a new French-Canadian corps, has returned to Canada.

Obituary.

Salome Chamberlain, relict of George L. Chitty, late of the Department of Indian Affairs, died on March 5th, aged seventy-six years.

Francis Bissonnette, of the Department of the Royal North West Mounted Police, died on March 2nd, aged fifty years. He was one of the old-time lacrosse stars of Ottawa.

Pierre Côté, for thirty-five years an employee of the Printing Bureau, died on March 8th, aged fifty-nine years. Eugene



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Côté, of the Bureau, and Alfred and Arthur Côté, of the Post Office, are sons.

The death occurred last week of the wife of W. F. Hoad, of the Forestry Branch, Department of the Interior. Mrs. Hoad, who was thirty-nine years of age, had been ill for two years. The funeral was held at East Templeton, her birthplace.

Paul Colonnier, translator, of the Department of Trade and Commerce, passed away on March 10th, after months of great suffering, aged forty-nine years. M. Colonnier was born in France, his earliest memories being of the fateful days of the Franco-Prussian war. For many years he lived in Montreal, where he was engaged in teaching, and was also for some time secretary of the French consulate. He was highly esteemed in educational and literary circles, was the author of several works on the French language, and had received a decoration from the government of his native land. He entered the Canadian Civil Service in 1909. His widow and a large family survive.

EMPLOYEES VS. COMMISSIONERS.

Standardization of civil service laws, efficiency operations, and pensions for superannuated merit employees, will be some of the Service questions to be discussed in a series of open debates between representative Civil Service employees and Commissioners, at the ninth annual conference of the National Assembly of Civil Service Commissions to be held June 14-16 at Ottawa, Canada.

The committee in charge of the convention is preparing to send out letters to organizations of merit employees, inviting representatives from the various associations to attend the assembly in June in order that they may take part in the discussions. Invitations will also be issued to civic bodies interested in civil service, to civil service reform associations, and civil service commissioners throughout the country.

Ability is all right for a sprint, but you need reliability for the business Marathon.

"HAMLET" WITHOUT HAMLET.

The bulletins of the departments of history and political and economic science in Queen's University are the outcome of original research by professors and others connected with that great institution of learning. The series now numbers a round dozen and a half. The latest one is of special interest to civil servants, not only because of its subject but because of what it does not say. This bulletin has for its title, "The Co-operative Store in Canada." It gives a most readable account of the movement for co-operative merchandizing in Canada, with some thoughtful and true reflections on the reasons why the system has not been more successful in America generally and in Canada particularly. But, while the several stores in the mining districts of Nova Scotia, the store in Guelph, and those of other places, are mentioned, there is not a word about the Civil Service Co-operative Supply Association of Ottawa. Mr. H. T. Owens and his predecessors and associates can build up a business of \$100,000 a year, but they evidently do not work hard at self-laudation. But, though their efforts have not attracted the attention of outsiders, they are really the leaders of the co-operative store movement in Canada, and when the history of that movement is written justice will be done to their efforts.

One reason why so few people are reasonable and agreeable in conversation is, that there is scarcely anybody who does not think more of what he has to say than of answering what is said to him. To be studious of pleasing one's self is but a poor way of pleasing or convincing others; and to hear patiently, and answer precisely, are the great perfections of conversation.—*Roche foucauld*.

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IN WASHABLE SATINS AND CREPES

The new season Blouses and Separate Waists, besides being beautiful in quality and becoming in style, possess the additional desirable factor of being washable, a characteristic that will appeal to dainty women. Bright colorings are a striking feature and serve as a marked contrast to the Black, which is all too sadly and mournfully prevalent. The new colorings embrace the flower-like hues, such new tints as Mint Green, Chartreuse, Mustard, Poppy, Dahlia, and the soft Yellows, Flesh Pinks, and Golden tones we have been accustomed to see in Crepe de Chines. The Blouses are all limpness, softness, and of a transparent sheen that is irresistibly becoming. Anything more feminine could scarcely be designed. The Satins are as lustrous and soft as the Crepe de Chines are sheeny and limp, and they will launder to perfection. Some show the introduction of effective color combinations in the collar, chemisette, front or cuffs. All are beautiful beyond telling.

New Satin Blouses at \$4.75, \$7.00 and \$7.50.

Georgette Crepe Blouses at \$6.00, \$7.50 and \$9

Crepe de Chine Blouses at \$4.75 and \$6.00.

New Jap Silk Blouses at \$1.98, \$2.48, \$2.95.

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TEA
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THE POSTAL JOURNAL

VOL. I.

MARCH 17, 1916

No. 12

*Edited under the auspices of
The Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada.*

Executive Board of the Postal Clerks' Association.

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The Association Aims.

1. To obtain for all Post Office clerks one day in each week for a day of rest.
2. To impress upon the Government our desire that eight hours shall constitute a day's work, such eight hours to be completed within twelve hours and to consist of not more than two attendances.
3. That seven hours constitute a day's work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.
4. To obtain time off for all overtime worked or payment in lieu thereof.
5. To secure equal conditions for all Post Office clerks, whether employed in semi-staff or city offices.
6. To abolish, by any and every means in its power, the patronage system, at the same time bringing all possible pressure to bear upon the Government in order to obtain the adoption of the merit system throughout the entire Civil Service.
7. To secure, as a reward for merit and long and faithful service, the higher positions in the Postal Service, knowing that such positions can be filled more advantageously from the rank and file of the service than by the appointment of individuals having no knowledge of Postal work.
8. To stimulate and foster organization among Post Office clerks, believing, as we do, that by this method only is it possible to obtain justice at the hands of the Department and equal rights for all.

All correspondence, matter for publication, etc., should be addressed to the Editor,
A. Venables, Calgary, Alberta.

INSIDE AND OUT.

On several occasions during the past year *The Civilian* has featured articles by members of the Civil Service Commission. We read with great interest Commissioner Shortt's address in Ottawa, Mr. Foran's address in California, and, more recently, Mons. LaRochelle's memorandum to the Secretary of State. Looking from a Postal Clerk's point of view, we are naturally more interested in the Outside than in the Inside portion of the Civil Service, and in reading these articles what do we find?

We find that the Secretary disposes of the Outside Service in about a dozen lines.

The memorandum to the Secretary of State was purely and simply a memorandum regarding the Inside Service. The extracts we saw of Dr. Shortt's address as they appeared in *The Civilian* might easily lead one to believe that he had more to say on the Outside Service than anyone else whose speeches have been printed in this paper.

May we dare to hope that this year we may have the privilege of some explanations on the Outside branch of the Service?

When one considers that the Outside Service is every bit as much part of the Canadian Civil Service as is the Inside Service, and that it is over five times as large a body as the branch at Ottawa, and

further when one considers that the Outside employees come much more directly in contact with their employers, viz., the general public, surely it seems reasonable to think that the Commission should interest itself every bit as much in the Outside as in the Inside of the Canadian Civil Service.

"COME, JOIN US."

Once again we wish to make an appeal to Eastern offices to negotiate with our General Secretary preparatory to enlisting with our forces. There are some, no doubt, who ask what good this association is and question whether we are accomplishing anything. Alas! we know only too well that even in our midst we have some who ask such questions. It is not intended to go into what we have done in this article, notwithstanding the fact that all those who have been interested enough to follow our work and acquaint themselves with our business fully realize that we have already more than justified our existence. If you do not know of any beneficial results from this organization and are anxious to know, our General Secretary or any of our officers will be glad to hear from you. However, we are not a body that is satisfied to lie down and think over what it has accomplished in the past, but rather we desire right here to earnestly drive home to all offices the thought of what might be brought about if we were efficiently organized in every office in the Dominion. It is truly impossible to foresee to what height we would rise if we were in that state. We should be in such a position that the Department would not turn a deaf ear when asked for reasonable explanations as to the conditions under which we are required to work. We should soon find patronage eliminated to a very large extent and, without doubt, finally dead. We should be far better off in almost every way, and consequently the people would have a far better and more satisfactory publicly owned service. Now the West can do little more so far as extending the organization is concerned. It is true that the West is running this association, but not from choice. Just as soon as Eastern offices line up we shall be satisfied with our legitimate share of control. We are more or less marking time now, waiting upon Eastern Canada to see her way clear to enter our association. We have, on several occasions, shown what we believe to be some very sound reasons why our Eastern fellow clerks should join us, but very few offices to date have been interested enough

to attempt to show reason why they should remain outside our society. We are convinced that it is not reason but rather apathy that is holding them back. Anyway if it's reason we should much appreciate hearing it. Furthermore, we are convinced that the Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada has come to stay, and that it will have a membership in every city in the country, thus making it truly worthy of the name it bears. How soon this will be the East alone can answer. Sydney, N.S., and Fort William are two recent conversions. Ottawa and Kingston are seriously considering this question of affiliation. Now we appeal to Montreal, Toronto, Quebec, Hamilton, London and other Eastern cities to help with a task, the hardest part of which, the beginning, has already been ably done for them. Our next convention will be held at Regina and we see no reason why the following one should not meet in Ontario. Now's the time, now before our members meet again. The next few months is the opportune time for Eastern offices to get busy and grasp the hand that is outstretched to them. Don't fail us. In conclusion, we most emphatically repeat what we have said before, that this matter has no bearing on war measures whatever. If this question touched such affairs in the slightest degree, this association would remain stone dead until such time as the country was at peace once more,—may it be soon.

WAR AGAINST INJUSTICE AND PATRONAGE.

Recruits wanted for The Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada.

Period of service—Duration of your employment in the Postal Service.

Pay—Self-satisfaction, in that you are doing your duty; increased benefits and a greater chance of justice at the hands of the Department.

Recruiting Offices — Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Brandon, Winnipeg, Port Arthur, Fort William and Sydney.

Expect to open shortly at Ottawa and Kingston.

Head Office: WINNIPEG.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

The letter received from the Deputy P. M. G., and which is printed in this issue, states that a man who enlists gets his salary minus his military pay. Dr. Coulter does not mention that it is necessary to be recommended for leave. It was necessary previous to November last, and it is likely that it still is, although the communication reads—"Our employees who enlist."

Since November last there seems to have been considerable delay in issuing salaries to many of the men enlisting. By all the information that is in our hands, the trouble seems to have been caused by the non-receipt, by the boys, of the form the Department require filling out by the recruiting officer. However we have not heard so much of this trouble lately, and it is hoped that it will not occur again. If there is much delay, a man's family has ample time to come close to starvation on \$33.00 a month, which is all they can possibly receive until his pay from the Department comes along.

We do not for one moment wish to depreciate what the Government desires to do for its employees enlisting, nevertheless the present system works most unfairly in some cases. We know of men who are enlisting, or who are thinking of doing so, who at present receive \$70.00 per month. When in the army they will receive just the same. If they should quit the Post Office or apply for leave without pay they would be a deal better off (under present conditions). These men would then receive: Army pay, \$33.00; Separation allowance, \$20.00, and from the Patriotic Fund, \$20.00, making a total of \$73.00. If it were not for the seriousness of it it would make one laugh.

Should Kingston decide to come into the fold, as we sincerely hope they will, they will have no cause to feel lonely. Our officers are excellent correspondents and we have a few pages of associational matter appearing regularly in the "Civilian." Ottawa and Kingston are less than 100 miles apart, so why not join up at the same time; then there would be no question of loneliness. Many of the Western offices are a good 100 miles apart. Lastly, we believe the Kingston would never regret the example that they would be setting Ontario if they were the first to join our association. They wouldn't stand alone in that great province many months.

It is often said that a man in a Government job gets no thanks or pay for any extra amount of brains that he may use or for any extra responsibility he may assume. Well, it's true enough. If a man joins the army and gets the chance of

promotion he gets extra pay. But if that man has been a Government employee before, oh no! no extra pay. In fact, some men are likely to refuse promotion as they very possibly can't afford to accept it! Everyone knows that it cost a sergeant most of his extra pay for mess allowance, etc., but our men have that extra pay deducted from their Post Office pay.

One of our members who has been on active service for over 18 months, and in Flanders over a year, writing to an officer of this association, said: "You will find me a different sort of fellow to what I used to be, and if I come safely back, I intend to take a great deal more interest in the association that I ever did before."

Edmonton writes as follows: "I would recommend that your space be enlarged a few more pages. Why not! Our boys here swear by all the gods worth swearing after, that the Journal is all too small." Although it is most encouraging to get news of this kind, we are sorry to have to say that we are not in a position to enlarge our space just at present. The question has been taken up with our friends at Ottawa, but as times are they are unable to be more generous than they are at present. Let us be patient for a little while and remember we have come to stay. Until we can grow in quantity, let us endeavour to grow in quality.

BRANCH NOTES.

Edmonton.

C. Hutchinson, one of our South Side clerks who enlisted with the 66th Battn. last July, has been in a local hospital for three months suffering from an affliction in the head and which was affecting his hearing. We are glad to hear he is now again back at his drills and ready for action.

Harry C. Neal, another 'South Sider,' has also answered the call to arms and is now wearing a tag showing his affiliation with the 151st Battn. under Lieut.-Col. P. E. Bowen. Harry takes up his new duties of looking after the 151st mail on March 1st.

Best of good luck to you, boys. Here's to "Der Tag" when you'll return.

William Jennings Bryan will have to look after his laurels as an orator. We've got one orator here who is climbing up to fame at a rapid rate; —stay with it, Jack Horswell.

One of members, when hearing of the calamity at Ottawa, recently, was heard breathing sighs of distress, which gave

vent to the remark, "Good Heavens, I wonder if my Guide Exam. paper is gone up in smoke, too." We hope so, Mac.

Prince Albert.

The Whist Club brought the season's games to a fairly successful conclusion by winning the last game. The conservatives were the vanquished ones, going under by the score of 11 points to 14. This, coupled with a win we made last week, places us out of reach of the wooden spoon.

John Henry is going farming, one source says "Cat Farming" but John is dead nuts on anything "catty," so the report is likely without foundation. Anyway, see John and go to the bush; no waiting.

Victoria.

Friday night at 8 o'clock. So read the big sign on the notice board to herald the social to be held at the home of Mr. Hollins, of the Victoria P. O. staff. Yes, all the boys had reserved the evening of February 26th for a social and enjoyable time which was arranged for them at the last monthly meeting night. Everyone was on time with a smile and the evening began with whist, five hundred and other games, provided for the 20 members' amusement. Singing formed a large part of the evening's enjoyment, during which many solos and choruses were appreciated by all. Later on President Adams announced something that sounded like "Refreshments," and to this everyone responded in a very orderly rush to the commissariat, where the festive board awaited, laid out most daintily by Mrs. Hollins. After the eats came the toasts to our host and hostess, followed by resumed musical programme. During the evening a string trio provided several selections and Mrs. Parsons, wife of our local Secretary, aided the program with splendidly executed pianoisms. A second vote of thanks was offered so as to emphasize the men's appreciation, and the evening concluded by heartily singing "God Save the King."

Calgary.

Kindly note that it is no longer seemly to call A. D. Aitken, Esq., by such frivolous names as "Scotty," "Shorty," or "The Kid." If you must use a short name call him "Daddy." Congratulations, squire.

There is no truth whatever in the rumour that George, of the Registration staff, beat it to Ottawa when the news came through that there was a fire.

We are rather late, but nevertheless we desire to wish Messrs. Taylor and Haley the best of luck while away on active service.

Members please note that delegates to convention will be elected at the regular April meeting. Keep the date open, its the 12th.

News has come to hand of the marriage of C. S. M., Wm. Bottling, to Miss Blanche Maddaford, at Trowbridge, England, on February 2nd. All will be congratulating "Billy" and looking for his return with his wife as soon as the war is over.

Regina.

Messrs. J. Wilkinson and E. Senior of this branch are the two latest members to enlist. They have joined the 195th, and if they can despatch Germans as well as they can despatch mail the war should soon be over. With their going this branch loses two members of the best type, and we wish them all good luck, with a speedy return.

The number of enlistments from this branch during the past few weeks has caused several vacancies in the Executive and Entertainment Committees, but these vacancies were successfully filled at the February meeting.

Executive Committee:—There were two vacancies on this committee, and Messrs. W. H. Usher and G. M. Campbell were elected to fill same.

Entertainment Committee:—This committee had been reduced to one member and as he very naturally appealed for help, Messrs. A. Child, E. Senior, P. Brewis and J. T. Smith were elected to help him out. With this very strong committee the next entertainment should be a peach.

Mr. J. Wardrope has set a good example to the several new clerks in the office by joining the association at the last meeting.

P.S.—Don't forget that we shall be glad to see you here in July. It's going to be a dandy convention.

Vancouver, B.C.

The regular monthly meeting, which was called for February 7th, was postponed on account of the very unusual fall of snow on that date, and which for a time threatened to tie up everything in the city. This sort of weather does not last long on the Pacific coast, and the meeting which was held the following week was well attended. Dr. Lang addressed the members on the subject of forming a Sick Benefit Society, and the matter was referred to committee to report upon. The subject of a social evening evoked a heated discussion, and this was followed by a somewhat lengthy debate regarding "ways and means" and the scope of the association. It had been arranged to hold a mock trial after the business meeting, but when the adjournment came it was considered too late to

make a start upon this item, and the committee hope to stage it at some future date.

It has been decided to devote 50% of the Post Office War Fund to the Canadian Patriotic Fund each month. In the case of our members this will amount to approximately \$100 per month.

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Nutt. The boys in the City Sorting Branch observed that Dick was wearing a large-sized smile, and, on enquiring the reason, they learned that a young Nutt had arrived. It's a daughter.

This association extends its heartiest sympathy to Mr. L. L. Creagh, clerk in charge of the Registration Department, on the loss sustained by him in the death of his mother.

One of the members of our Journal Committee recently essayed the great venture, so we wish Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs long life and happiness. When you get quite settled down in your new abode, we wouldn't mind having that little article for the Journal. Any time, Bill; thank you.

WHAT NON-MEMBERS SHOULD KNOW.

That those who are not with us must necessarily be considered against us.

That all advantages obtained by this association are shared by non-members alike.

That the correspondence in obtaining justice and benefits from the Department entails the outlay of money.

That associationalists have to pay your share as well as their own.

That if you consider you have sound reasons for not joining our organization you can always find a member ready to debate the question with you.

That we have always treated the outsider fairly and without discrimination.

That this association admits that it is far from perfect.

That you may be able to help us get nearer that ideal.

That the members are anxious for your moral and financial support.

That all branches are putting on some jolly good evenings these days.

That you should be fraternal and be amongst your fellow workers on these occasions.

That your fellow men, the higher officials and the Department, think no less of a man for organizing for the protection of his own interests.

That it would be just as well to think over these things and then see the Secretary.

The General Secretary recently asked the Department to furnish, either directly to the association or else through the order books of the post offices, all information regarding clerks requiring leave for active service, etc. The following reply has been received:

Ottawa, Feby. 26, 1916.

Dear Sir,—

Your letter of the 28th ultimo in reference to the future policy of the Department in regard to Post Office employees enlisting for active service has been received, and I beg to say in reply that when the war began Post Office employees who made application for leave to go on active service, where the leave applied for could be recommended, were given full pay in addition to their military pay. However, in November, 1915, these regulations were amended so that now our employees who enlist are only given their salary minus the amount of military pay, provided they were permanently in the Service when the war began. Temporary men in the Service are not granted leave with pay.

As regards your enquiry as to the amount of military pay deducted, I may say that it depends on the man's rank. If he is a private, a private's pay is deducted; if an officer, an officer's pay.

Sincerely Yours,

R. M. COULTER,

Deputy P. M. G.

J. W. GREEN, Esq.,

Secretary, Postal Clerks, Assn.,
Winnipeg, Man.

A POSTMASTER IN A HURRY.

We will a round, unvarnished tale deliver concerning that extraordinary happening out on the Arborg branch of the C.P.R. in the cold, gray dawn of last Thursday morning.

The train had started from Arborg, at the end of the line, at 5.35 a.m., in exact compliance with the time table, on its journey to Winnipeg, seventy-seven miles away. One of the first stops it makes, before it has travelled ten miles from Arborg, is at a place which bears the name of a famous painter, beginning with R. Most the place names out there are foreign; and most of the people are of foreign origin, including the postmaster at R—.

The train had just left R—, when the passengers in the last car, including L.H.M. of Winnipeg, were startled to hear the rear door thrown open and to see a figure in white race through the car, carrying

a bag. A few moments later the train stopped. . . . Then the conductor came into the rear car, laughing, and on L.H.M. asking what the matter was, took him to the rear door and pointed out a man clad only in his night shirt and boots, who was running back to R—— along the track.

And, now we must explain that the postmasters along the line have to deliver their mail bags on board the train every morning. If they fail, they are fined; but the stern call of duty exerts a more compelling force on the postmaster at R—— than any fine could, or any form of official reprimand.

On Thursday morning last he awoke only the moment before the train moved out of R——. Jumping out of bed he thrust his feet into his boots, grabbed the mail bag and gave chase to the train, climbed aboard the last car, ran on until he found the conductor, thrust the mail bag upon him, and then rushed out on the car platform and jumped off. The startled conductor pulled the train cord, and the train stopped; but the fleet-footed postmaster was already well on his way home, running down the track as hard as he could with his night shirt fluttering in the wind.

"But, surely, you must be mistaken!" we said to M. at the close of his remarkable recital. "The man must have had more on than that!"

"I can take my oath he didn't," declared M., "and so can the conductor." And he named also a freight official, who was on the train. . . . Gentle reader, M. spoke the truth. The postmaster was clad only in his night shirt and his boots.

And as, in our mind's eye, we see him running along the track, does not his night shirt, fluttering in the winter breeze, signal to us that never-to-be-forgotten message that flutters from the flagstaffs on the tops of the Free Press building on each Trafalgar Day?

W. J. H.

Most men, when buying a dog, demand that its genealogy be better than their own.

Not a day passes over the earth but men and women of no note do great deeds, speak great words, and suffer noble sorrows. Of these obscure heroes, philosophers and martyrs the greater part will never be known till that hour when many that were great shall be small, and the small great.—*Charles Reade.*

THE OPTIMIST.

From the Brandon Sun.

Full-gifted, with power to see and understand,
Product of ambition, noblest in the land,
Believing in the future—in the present too—
This is the optimist—does this mean you?

Pure-hearted, with strength to fight and win,
Guided by a purpose—not what might have been,
Aiming at the greatest—nothing less will do—
This is the optimist—does this mean you?

Unmindful of the failures, looking straight ahead,
Outliving disappointment—profiting instead,
Rising above discouragement, beginning life anew,
This is the optimist—does this mean you?

AN INFORMAL KNOT.

From Everybody's.

Major George W. Teideman of Savannah, Ga., tells the following about the old-time Georgia editor who was usually mayor, justice of the peace and real estate agent, as well.

Upon one occasion one of these editors was busy writing an editorial on the tariff when a Georgia couple came in to be married. Without looking up, without once slacking his pen, the editor said:

"Time's money; want her?"

"Yes," said the youth.

"Want him?" the editor nodded toward the girl.

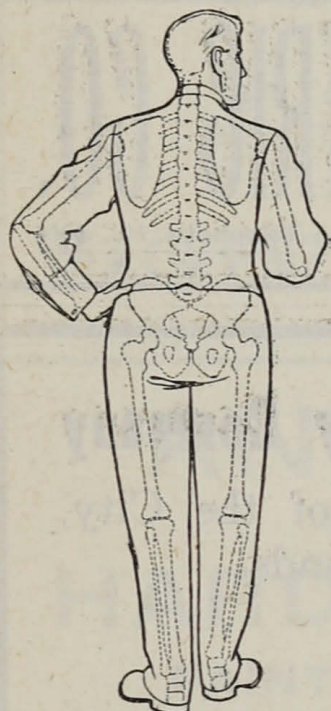
"Yes," she replied.

"Man and wife," pronounced the editor, his pen still writing rapidly. "One dollar. Bring a load of wood for it. One-third pine, balance oak."

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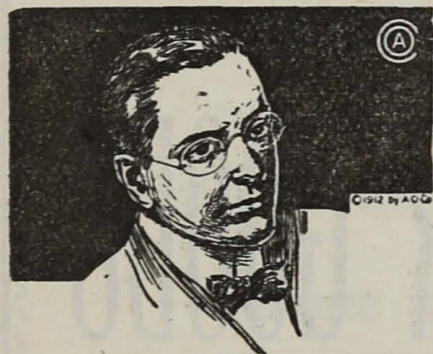
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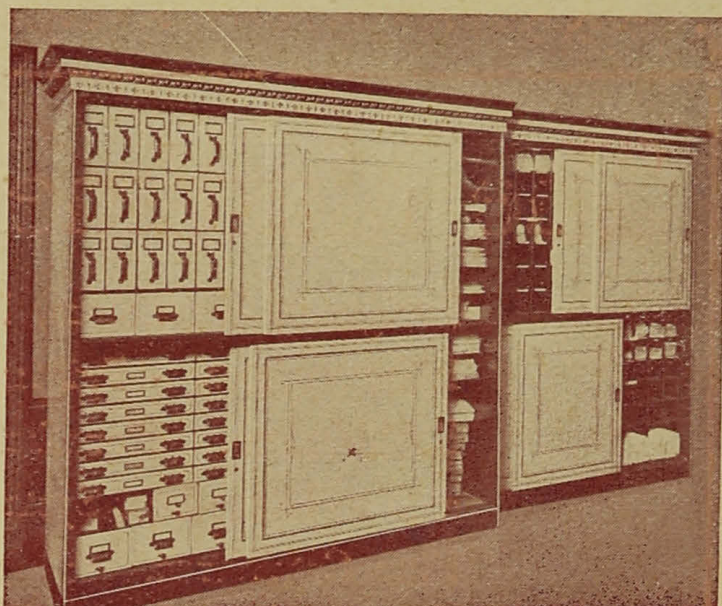
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